

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON



January 24, 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES S. LAY, JR.

Attached is a copy of the letter regarding the President's Committee on International Information Activities, as signed by the President on January 24, 1953.

The original is in the possession of Mr. Hopkins who is preparing the letters of appointment. Other copies are being, or have been, sent to:

Mr. W. H. Jackson  
Mr. C. D. Jackson  
Mr. Allen Dulles ✓  
The Bureau of the Budget  
Mr. James G. Hagerly

The original letter will probably not reach you until Monday or Tuesday. The news may not be announced until that time.

ROBERT OUTLER

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

January 21, 1953

Dear Mr. Lay:

I have today established a Committee, to be known as the President's Committee on International Information Activities.

I have authorized and directed it to make a survey and evaluation of the international information policies and activities of the Executive Branch of the Government and of policies and activities related thereto with particular reference to the international relations and the national security of this country. It shall make recommendations to me for such legislative, administrative, or other action, respecting the said policies and activities as in its opinion may be desirable.

It has long been my conviction that a unified and dynamic effort in this field is essential to the security of the United States and of the other peoples in the community of free nations.

The Committee's final report and recommendations are to be in my hands not later than June 30, 1953, and the Committee will cease to operate thirty days after submitting its final report.

All executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government are authorized and directed, as a matter of common concern, to cooperate with the Committee in its work and to furnish the Committee with such assistance not inconsistent with law as it may require in the performance of its functions. The establishment of this Committee and the scope of its inquiry were discussed at the Cabinet meeting Friday morning and received full and complete support.

I am today appointing the following as members of the Committee:

William H. Jackson, Chairman  
Robert Cutler, Administrative Assistant to the President  
C. D. Jackson, representing the Secretary of State  
Sigurd Larmon, representing the Director for Mutual Security  
Gordon Gray  
Barklie McKee Henry  
John C. Hughes

Abbott Washburn has been designated as Executive Secretary of the Committee.

The appointments of C. D. Jackson and Sigurd Larmon were respectively made after consultation with, and at the designation of, Mr. John Foster Dulles and Mr. Harold E. Stassen. A designee to represent the Secretary of Defense will be named to the Committee before the end of the month.

The Committee will have its offices at 901 Sixteenth Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C.

Sincerely,

Honorable James S. Lay, Jr.  
Executive Secretary  
National Security Council  
Washington 25, D. C.

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Sigurd Larson, representing the Director for Mutual Security  
Gordon Gray  
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John C. Hughes

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The Committee will have its offices at 901 Fifteenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Sincerely yours,